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Genetic privacy and non-discrimination

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

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Information and comments received from Member States: Russian Federation

* E/2007/100 and Corr.1.

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Implementation by the Russian Federation of Economic and Social Council resolution 2004/9 on genetic privacy and non-discrimination

[Original: Russian]

Today, forensic genetic work based on DNA analysis is performed in 30 criminal investigation units of the internal affairs agencies of the Russian Federation.

DNA examination is conducted on the institutions of the State agencies involved in criminal proceedings and police work and of the courts. The results of the DNA examination give an alphanumeric code of specific genome fragments which determine all the genetic traits of an individual and therefore allow him or her to be identified. However, this information does not reveal the physiological traits of the individual's genetic make-up and state of health and may not be used for the purpose of "genetic" discrimination.

The Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs has drafted a federal act on State genome registration in the Russian Federation. It is aimed at laying the legal bases for the preventive collection, storage and use of biological material for the identification of individuals and of the personal information contained therein on the DNA make-up of the persons for the purpose of enhancing the effectiveness of efforts to combat crime, including terrorism and extremism, establishing the identity of unidentified corpses and searching for Russian nationals, foreign citizens and stateless persons reported missing.